

January 17, 1995

you check in, please. Senator Abboud, Senator Schellpeper, Senator Schrock. Senator Brashear, will you please check in. Senator Abboud. We're waiting for Senator Abboud. Senator Withem.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Request that the order be called in reverse. Maybe Senator Abboud will be here by the time we get to him. Oh, he is here, so here we go.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Still want reverse order, Senator? There's been a request for a roll call vote in reverse order. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: (Roll call vote taken. See page 289 of the Legislative Journal.) 29 ayes, 14 nays on the adoption of the amendment.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The Withem amendment is adopted. I raise the call. We return to a discussion of proposed rule change number 13. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President and members of the Legislature, if this rule change is adopted, we have a situation now where if you offer an amendment and the question of germaneness is raised with reference to the entire amendment, even if the Chair rules that, as a whole, the amendment is germane, somebody could still divide the question and obtain a germaneness ruling on each of those 20 elements. (Laughter.) Beauty is in the eye of the beholder, they usually say, but this is such a beautiful piece of work, I believe anybody who looks at this will see the beauty in it. There are not many things that I apply the term "love" to. I'm very discriminating and stingy in my use of that word. I do not even say, with reference to people that I like a great deal that I love them. I don't say that I love laws. I don't say I love the constitution. But this is one of those rare occasions where I will apply that word. I love this proposed rule change. Now, apart from my deep emotional involvement in this one...and, Senator Withem, I have to keep saying inside, be still my beating heart, because I might say enough that will make you reject this rule change now, but here's why you shouldn't. Without this rule change, that ambiguity does exist. There is no guidance in the rules for the Chair in determining how to handle the question when somebody obtains a ruling that an entire amendment is germane but, after the question is divided, whether each of the component parts would be deemed